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Y M C A

Prof Babcock

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College.

VOL. XIII. CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1911. No. 18.

WON ONE ON 'NITIATIVE AND REF'RENDUM

Negative Team Outclassed Union, While Affrmative Lost to Colgate—Two Forceful, Well-Presented Debates.

The annual contests of the Triangular Intercollegiate Debating League held last Friday evening, resulted in a victory for Colgate. Colgate teams defeated Hamilton at Hamilton and Union at Schenectady, thus successfully arguing both for and against the "Initiative and Referendum for New York State." The Hamilton negative team, debating at home, won over Union.

The floor of the Chapel held a comfortable sprinkling of college and town, when the punctual report of Dr. Stryker's gavel interrupted the tower clock on the fifth stroke of eight. After the usual formalities Mr. Bray opened for Union and the affirmative, and from thence the debate moved with speed and interest.

Really there was nothing to it. As a team the Hamilton men won easily by greatly superior presentation. Bray and Mann, Union's first speakers, presented poorly organized material without confidence or force, and were at times wretchedly handicapped by memorized speeches. Martin, on the other hand, opened very strongly—if at times assertively—for the negative and immediately placed the affirmative at a disadvantage by his statement of the affirmative's duty to prove the inefficiency of representative government. Bedenkapp's direct appearance as second negative was good, his explanation of the danger of breaking down the distinction between constitutional and statutory law by popular referendum was excellently lucid. But to the man on the cracker barrel, Bedenkapp and the negative made a very dangerous strategic blunder by their suggestion of direct primaries as an alternative remedy.

So far it was all Hamilton, but Potter, in closing the direct argument for Union, made a splendid argument that really made running for the whole Hamilton team.

Harper closed brilliantly for the negative. He had striking material on the application of initiative and referendum to New York, and made a clever presentation of it—quite the best and most effective direct speech of the debate.

After the intermission, the rebuttal—with Union in the advantage of last position—went a good deal like the direct appearances. Martin was again strong and clung to the constructive lines of his case. Bedenkapp was fairly effective, but much weaker than on direct. Harper, too, weakened on rebuttal, but still averaged two exceptionally good appearances. Bray and Mann, for Union, appearing pleasantly in their proper order, showed good enough material, again badly organized and very weakly driven home. But Potter in closing the debate, shouldered the burden manfully, and made a powerful criticism of the negative's obstructionist case, pointed out what seemed to be real inconsistencies, and made an heroic effort to win the approval of the audience for the affirmative constructive theories. To the writer it seemed the most substantial work of the evening.

The judges quite properly were unanimously for the negative, and their decision was roundly approved by the audience.

As a team, the Hamilton debaters outclassed their opponents. The strategic advantage of the negative they used admirably, but that aside, their whole case was better analyzed, more soundly constructed, and far more pointedly put. Superior training in speaking told heavily; for in ease and self-possession, in range of vocabulary, in ability to turn phrases cleanly and boldly and forcibly, in power to strike home ideas with proper emphasis, in command of all proper ad captandum devices—in "getting across the footlights"—comparison with Union would be invidious. But often enough this much has been true aforetime.

The most substantial encouragement was to note the immediately strengthening effect of the most sensible reorganization of our whole scheme of debating—so long hoped and prayed for. The day, let us hope, is at hand when Hamilton debate will no longer connote indifferent research, loose thinking, uncritical and assertive clap-trap, subtle phrased and chest-toned bosh.

The work of this year's team against Union surely seemed a great advance toward real debating.

The Debate at Colgate.

President E. B. Bryan presided. O'Brien, opening the debate for Hamilton, depicted conditions at present existing in the New York State Legislature which urgently demand an effective remedy, and for which the initiative and referendum was put forward as a remedy by the affirmative. O'Brien put forward the general plan of an initiative and referendum suitable for New York State. The plan, he stated, did not include the possibility of the initiative of constitutional amendment by the people.

Following O'Brien, Hughes of Colgate objected to the proposed plan of the affirmative, holding that the initiative and referendum as generally accepted, does include the initiative of constitutional amendments by the people. Thruout the debate this point was fought over, the affirmative holding themselves justified by the indefiniteness of the proposition as stated.

As to the necessity of the scheme, he took issue with the first affirmative, declaring legislative conditions to be healthy. He further held that for such evils as may exist a less radical remedy is desirable.

(Continued on page 5.)

SENIOR HONOR LIST.

So much dissatisfaction was manifested last year over the padding of the Senior honor list in the 1911 Hamiltonian that the 1912 Hamiltonian Board has asked three Seniors, Sidle, Getman, and Colson, to make out a list of what should properly be called honors. The list is as follows:

Pentagon, Square, D. T. Club, Varsity Football Team, Class Officers, College Records in Track, Chairmanships, Phi Beta Kappa, Prize Speakers, Scholastic Honors, Interclass Debate, Intercollegiate Debate, Mandolin and Glee Clubs, Senior Executive Committee, Choir, Life, Lit., Press Club, Junior Prom. Committee, Charlatans, Hamiltonian Board, Interscholastic Committee, Entrance Prizes, Freshman Drill Master, Elder, Y. M. C. A., N. Y. S. I. A. U., Seminars, Quartet, Varsity Baseball Team, Varsity Basket-ball Team.

While it is expected that the Seniors shall follow this list any valid suggestions will be thankfully received and considered. As the term is progressing all Senior honor lists must be in by March 4. Please hand these lists to Plant, '12.

FRESHMAN DEFEAT SOPHS.

The Freshman Basket-ball Team defeated the Sophomores at the Scollard Opera House in Clinton last Thursday evening by the score of 19 to 14.

The line-up:

SOPHOMORES.		FRESHMEN.
	Left Forward.	
Mahady.		Calder.
	Right Forward.	
Griswold.		Carmer, Weaver.
	Center.	
C. Root,	Groves.	Blood.
	Left Guard.	
Groves,	C. Root.	Regin.
	Right Guard.	
Fear.		Flagg.

Baskets from the field: Mahady 2, C. Root 2, Fear 2, Groves 1, Calder 3, Carmer 1, Blood 2, Regin 2, Flagg 1. Goals from fouls: Calder 1. Time of halves, 15 minutes.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT.

A tournament has been organized in the Bowling Club, beginning Monday, the 27th. All members are eligible. The matches will consist of three games each and can be rolled at any time during the course of general play. Both contestants need not appear at the same time. Any member can roll for the tournament on notifying the alley manager. The first rounds must be rolled this week. As in previous tournaments the man who has the high score for the first round will be considered high-score man and will roll the winner of the tournament for the championship title The finals will consist of five games, in which the contestants must appear together. Woods, '13, now holds the season's record with a score of 210.

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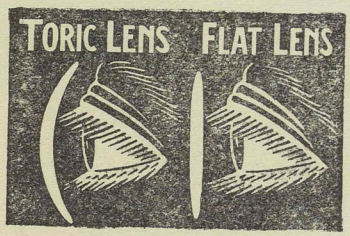

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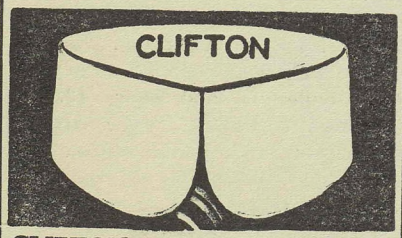

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EDITORIAL.

Together with the Debating Council and the debaters themselves, the College rejoices in the result of the triangular debate of last week. Our decisive victory over Union more than overshadows the disappointment of our defeat at Colgate. Both Hamilton teams put up forceful, clear-cut and well prepared arguments, showing the result of hard and close study. The showing made by both our teams, satisfactory as it was to the College, must have been especially gratifying to Prof. C. L. Lewis, who is undoubtedly more deeply interested in the success of Hamilton debating than any other person. It is, also, largely thru his efforts that a keener interest in debate is manifesting itself generally thruout the College. Remarkable improvement has been made within the past two or three years and, with the aid of the Debating Council and the growing interest of the student body, we confidently expect to regain and maintain the same pre-eminence in oratory and debate which Hamilton has enjoyed for so many years.

Time and again within the recent history of the College has the progress of our athletic activities been seriously hampered by the indifference to scholastic work as exhibited by the players on the various teams. For an example we have to look back only as far as our last football season, when more than one man was kept out of the game because he was poor in his work and had no allowance of cuts.

In the past also, and for similar reasons, have our baseball and basket-ball teams failed to represent the real strength of the College. This year the Musical Clubs come in for their share of the embarrassment and as a result one of the more important numbers on the program may have to be omitted from the mid-winter trip, because the Faculty cannot allow cuts to some four or five men on account of indifferent scholastic work. Surely we cannot blame the Faculty; neither is the management of the clubs responsible. It is merely another case of men who could but don't seem interested in doing the right thing either by themselves or by the College.

The baseball season is not far in the future and the Captain and Manager, and we hope the entire College, desires to send South early in April the very best team we can get together. If it could be predicted that some of the best players would not be allowed to go, the trip undoubtedly would not have been scheduled.

But it is not at all necessary that these complications should arise. If every man who is out for baseball will apply himself to his work for the remainder of this term the baseball team this season may not suffer the embarrassments that some have experienced in the past.

* * *

It is about this season of the year that the members of the Senior Class begin to anticipate the heavy expenses of graduation and in their letters home they hint darkly at a Hamiltonian tax. Why small classes—such as we have here—should attempt the labor and expense of an annual has been the perennial mystery to editors and managers. But we go on doing it and every year we accept with as much resignation as we can summon, the five, seven, or eight, dollar taxes which are elevied as the duty upon our imported sense of obligation. But beyond expressing his hope that no tax would be necessary, the manager of the 1911 Hamiltonian has left the class entirely in the dark regarding the status of his accounts. At a meeting held early in last term he stated that he was not yet prepared to report. We submit that the class, which is responsible for the publication of the book, should be informed by this time in order that the members may know what to expect in the way of a tax. Commencement is not far off and at that time expenses will, of necessity, be rather heavy. Thus far matters have been left entirely to the discretion of the manager, but by this time he should have disposed of the books which he has on hand and be ready to submit his report to the class, the members of which are the responsible parties in the transaction. If it is found necessary to levy a tax, that same tax could be borne more easily this term than at the end of the year when Seniors have to undergo so much expense. As to the possibilities of a deficit, rumor is persistent in declaring that the entire edition has not yet been paid for according to the contract. So is the printer. If we insist on perpetrating this splendid piece of folly each year, then those whom we hire to assist us have a right to insist that we pay them. However that may be, the class is entitled to the report of the manager in order that they may learn exactly how far they have committed themselves in the matter. Perhaps a class meeting could be called at some time in the near future when the manager could be ready with his accounts. The sponsors of their class book have a right to all the information on the subject that they can obtain.

FRATERNITY CONVENTIONS.

Three fraternity conventions were held last week at the Astor in New York City. Getman, '11, and Erskine, '12, represented the Psi Charge at the Theta Delta Chi Convention. The Alpha Delta Phi Convention was attended by Gouge, '11, and Eells, '12. The delegation representing the Alpha Phi Chapter at the Chi Psi Convention included Wisehart, '11, Donaldson, Eddy, Patteson, and Riley, '12, Bissell and Schmidt, '14.

—Prof. Brown has purchased property to the northwest of the Sigma Phi Place and will build a residence there in the near future.

WON ONE ON 'NITIATIVE, &C.

(Continued from page 1.)

Colson of the affirmative asserted that representative government would be strengthened by the initiative and referendum by making the representatives truly representatives of the people's wishes, by making them responsible, and by calling to the legislature the very highest type of men.

Miller of Colgate followed, putting forward several tests of practicability

Jones of the affirmative dealt with the practicability of the proposed measure and with its applicability to peculiar conditions in New York State. He pointed out the success of the measure in Oregon and other states, and asserted that profiting by the experience of such states, it is possible for New York to adopt a measure to successfully meet her peculiar conditions.

Sorrell of the negative, taking issue with the second affirmative, held that an initiative and referendum breaks down representative government. Our liberties are guaranteed by the distinction now existing between constitutional and statutory law. If you give the people the power to initiate both constitutional and statutory law, you destroy this distinction and endanger our liberties.

After a five-minute intermission, President Bryan again called the gathering to order. The negative was first in order of rebuttal. Thruout, the points of issue of the advance speeches were vigorously contested by each side.

In rebuttal the Colgate men quoted many so-called authorities, reading the quotations from previously prepared cards. Whether such use of material is permissable under the rules as to "notes" is questionable. That should be made clear before another year.

The Hamilton team worked well together, put up a strong, creditable debate, and has nothing to regret. It failed, however, to take some advantages in rebuttal which were open. Colgate gave the team a most courteous hearing, and in every way the utmost good feeling was manifested.

—Smyth, '09, and Hastings, '10, have been trying out for positions in the cast of the play presented by the Dramatic Club of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

ALUMNI BANQUET AT BOSTON.

The annual reunion and banquet of the New England Association of Hamilton College Alumni was held in Boston at the Hotel Thorndike on Thursday evening, February 23. The banquet was in every way a success. College songs and class yells interspersed the menu and several solos were sung by Hastings, '10. The business of the meeting consisted in the hearing of the reports of the secretary and treasurer given by Perine, '87, and the adoption of resolutions drawn up by Dr. Winslow, '62, in memory of the Alumni who had passed away since the last meeting. The mourned were: Terry, '64, Brody, '76, and Jerome, '07. After a few remarks by Dr. Kneeland, '69, president of the Alumni Association, Dr. Squires was introduced. The younger members of the Alumni greeted him heartily with the appropriate verse of the Faculty Song. Prof. Squires said in part: "A man needs a college home. This is best approximated by the small college, But this is 'the commercial age' where the dollar earning capacity is idolized, where numbers are regarded as symbols of success—an age in which people want to be on the go. Going whither? Oh, nowhere, just going. While this pendulum of commercialism has about reached the extreme, and its turning point is already marked by the remarks of such men as President Shurman of Cornell, and President Lowell of Harvard, and finally by the resolution of Amherst to cast off the semblance of a university and show her colors as a college pure and simple, taking her stand upon the broad foundation of classical studies—while these tendencies mark the turning point in the commercial spirit which dominates institutions of higher learning, Hamilton College, in a few years, will stand out unique as the college which upon her hill has stood firm thru it all. I have great admiration and respect for the man who has stood at her helm and guided her. The purpose of Hamilton College is not to fit men for their jobs, but to give them the training which will aid them to adjust themselves to all kinds of conditions."

The following Alumni were present at the banquet: Winslow, '62, Kneeland, '69 (Pres. of Association), Hon. O. E. Branch, '73, Paine, '74, Budlong, '77, King and Perine, '87, Dr. Squires, '88, Spencer, '01, McGaffin, '04, Bagg and Day, '07, Clark, ex-'07, Bate and Judson, '08, Kneeland, Love and Smyth, '09, Hastings and Judson, '10.

CODY CALUMNIATES.

Luckily "Jimmie" Flagler's band wasn't concerned, nor was the drum, which borrowed from some Clinton Pryor, now lies forgotten and in ruins somewhere back of the Chemical Lab. in "Stink's" Mead, flayed to fragments by Flagler's flying foot. Supposedly Zita owned that nimbused drum, which was such a potent factor in his inimitable ensemble. It would be a natural conclusion that he controlled the drummer, too, for the period of his engagement at least.

"Nota me," said the drummer, however, after a cursory glance at boisterous nature's pranks and a comprehensive wink from "Bud" Walker, when he heard vague rumors of migrating at twelve o'clock. So eventually Zita went alone and chaos and disorder resulted—came as rain drops out of a threatening sky.

"Can't you send the drummer over and help us out?" came "Bill's" voice over the 'phone. To which "Bud" responded with a dissenting grunt—that is expressing it as strongly as propriety allows.

Whereupon "Col. Bill" sought recourse to the alcoves of his Wild West patois, but it did not suffice. Then malice, green, slimy envy conquered discretion.

"Perhaps you intend to put a button on him, too," said "Bill" and banged up the receiver.

Which merely illustrates how small matters oftentimes engender grave catastrophes.

(Watch for our next: "Poose Piqued, or Bad Bud and the Curtailed Cal.")

THE WEST WINFIELD CONCERT.

The first out-of-town concert of the year was held in West Winfield last Saturday. The Mandolin Club played the best it has so far this year. Gouge, '11, was unable to make the trip and his place on the quartet was taken by DuBois, '12. Peck, '12, and Peters, '11, were ill and did not go. Otherwise the personel of the club was the same as in the other two concerts.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT

R. W. DRUMMOND, Local Editor.

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President, Prof. C. L. Lewis, A. M.
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Treasurer, Prof. W. M. Carruth, A.M.

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D. R. Sidle, '11, Captain.

Baseball Department.

N. B. Pratt, '12, Manager.
P. M. Allen, '11, Captain.

Track Department.

C. S. Peck, '12, Manager.
R. B. Colson, '11, Captain.

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H. S. Dorrance, '12, Manager.

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C. S. Peck, '12.

Musical Clubs.

C. E. Anibal, '11, Manager.
H. F. Johnson, '11, Leader Glee.
S. S. Gould, '11, Instrumental.

Y. M. C. A.

R. B. Colson, '11, President.
T. C. Corlis, '13, Secretary.

Hamilton Literary Magazine.

M. K. Wisehart, '11, Editor.
H. G. Gaige, '11, Business Manager.

Hamiltonian.

J. S. Plant, '12, Editor.
James Eells, '12, Business Manager.

Press Association.

E. H. Jones, '11, President.
D. H. Hallock, '12, Secretary-Treas.

HILL NOTES.

—Cody, '08, was on the Hill last week.

—The Press Club picture was taken last Saturday at Frey's.

—The baseball management is to have new bases for this season.

—H. C. Jones, '14, has gone to his home in Yonkers because of sickness.

—"Ted" Jessup, ex-'13, has reentered College in the Freshman Class.

—Allen, '11, is a member of the choir of the Westminster Church, Utica.

—Gaige, '11, assisted "Uncle" John in the Gym. last week by leading the Freshman Gym. class.

—Cross, '13, has joined the list of candidates of the directorship of Intramural Sports. Gould, '13, and Wheelock, '13, have already appeared as candidates for this position.

—Pictures of the Gymnasium "as it looked Prom. night" may be had from Harris of Utica.

—Dr. Squires spoke at the Hamilton Alumni banquet held in Boston last Thursday evening.

—The competition for monologist on the Musical Clubs resulted in the selection of Greengard, '14.

—Barney, Bristol, Cole, Gates, and Mengerink are trying out for the assistant managership of Track.

—Peters, '12, and Kultchar, '12, were confined to their rooms last week by an attack of tonsilitis.

—Dubois, '12, sang on the quartet Saturday evening in place of Gouge, '11, who was obliged to miss the concert.

—The candidates for the assistant managership of baseball are Brown, Calder, Carmer, McGowan, Regin, and Rhodes.

—On account of the intercollegiate debate the French Club has been postponed one week and the German Club two weeks.

—Warren, '02, has resigned his position as Superintendent of Schools in Ilion to accept a position in the Clark & Baker Library Bureau Co.

—The sixth lecture of the series being given by Dr. Squires will occur in Silliman Hall on Friday, March 3, at 7:30. Questions will be answered and general discussion permitted from 7 to 7:30 o'clock.

—At the annual banquet of the Oneida Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday evening Dr. Stryker spok on "Large Life in Lesser Cities." Geo. E. Dunham, '79, spoke on "Municipal Patriotism."

—Professor Theodore F. Collier, '94, who for the past few years has been assistant in the department of History at Williams College, has recently been appointed to the Professorship of History in Brown University to succeed Professor W. H. Munroe, who has held the chair at Brown for twenty years.

—After March 1st President Lewis of the Athletic Association will make no more remittances on the athletic tax and the names of those who have failed to pay will be posted. Last term there were but three who failed to pay the tax or receive a remittance; there are thirty-seven delinquents this term.

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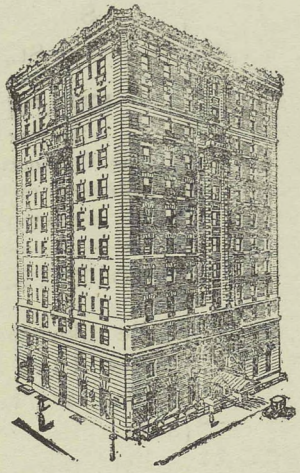

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